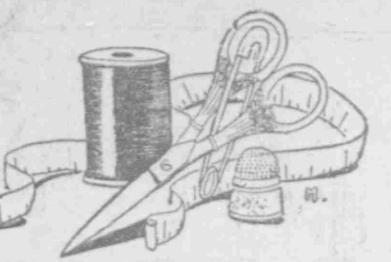




# For the Home Dressmaker



## FLOWERED DIMITIES IN DEMAND



### New Way To Deal With Women

Who Take What is Not Their Very Own.

MANY shopkeepers in London, particularly in the fashionable West End, have for years suffered at the hands of that class of kleptomaniacs known as gentlewomen. And until recently no efficient method of dealing with them has been discovered. Now, however, they think they have hit upon an excellent procedure.

Suppose the Honorable Ethel Comys—who has been some time under the respectful surveillance of the Shopkeepers' Protective association's detective—alights from her carriage at the door of Doe & Doe, Regent street, and sweeps up the aisle with the swish of silken gown and the elegance of voluminous mantle to one of the counters.

#### Catching a Victim.

A saleswoman deferentially waits upon her. The Honorable Ethel wishes a certain article. Yes, they have it in stock, but not in that part of the shop. Then will the saleswoman have the goodness to procure it?

Certainly. And she forthwith disappears in quest of the desired article. The Honorable Ethel taps the floor with her dainty toe, drums on the counter with her gloved fingers, carefully fingering the various silks and laces that have been spread out on the counter, casts a nonchalant glance about the store, then sits down to wait with noble patience the return of the saleswoman. To all appearance, nothing out of the ordinary has occurred.

But the watchful eye of the protective association's sleuth has caught an almost imperceptible, apparently inadvertent movement of the Honorable Ethel's arm, and simultaneously the disappearance of a very valuable piece of lace.

"Caught at last!" he murmurs to himself, as he merges from his place of observation and saunters toward the door.

The saleswoman returns and displays the article she had gone after. It is lightly examined by the Honorable Ethel and pronounced satisfactory. She has it charged to papa's account, picks her skirts daintily up and starts for the door.

The door-boy obsequiously opens the door, and the Honorable Ethel is about to pass out, when the quiet P. A. man obtrudes himself on her notice.

"Pardon me—but I suggest that you come to the firm's private office for a moment."

For a long-drawn-out instant the Honorable Ethel's face presents a kaleidoscope of emotions—surprise, haughty indignation, the first blush of guilt, then the fright of an animal brought to bay, and finally, as her instinct of self-preservation begins to assert itself, defiance which, under the officer's unrelenting gaze, turns to stony acquiescence.

"Very well; although I cannot imagine what the firm can want to see me for, Mr. Doe attends to our account here."

They traverse the shop to the rear end, where a ground-glass partition screens off the private offices of the firm from the shop. The Honorable Ethel steps inside, and the P. A. officer follows, closing the door behind him.

"Mr. Doe," he says to a member of the firm, "the lady will oblige me much by allowing me to remove her mantle," and, knowing a quick movement of protest on her part, he performs the service, disclosing to the view of the firm the piece of expensive lace that had disappeared from the counter.

Mr. Doe's expression at once becomes severe.

"Chooses Her Punishment."

"This is an all too common occurrence in our shop, madame. We have ceased to consider position or birth. We give you two minutes to take your choice of being prosecuted in a court of law, or taking a birch-rod castigation at the hands of our head saleswoman. Here she is—she has good, muscular arms, you notice—and there on the wall you see our substantial birch rod. Which is your choice?"

The Honorable Ethel threatens, weeps, implores—all in vain—and at length sullenly accepts the birch rod ordeal, which is administered with stinging force—the piece of lace is restored, and the kleptomaniac permitted to depart.

Such, in brief, is the story of the new method of dealing with the difficult class. In one shop alone as many as twenty ladies of gentle birth have gone through the ordeal, with results that are said to have afforded considerable relief to the harassed shopkeepers.

### SMART GOWNS FOR THE SUMMER AFTERNOON

ANY fashion tending to simplicity is welcome in these days of over-dressing, when women's clothes require so much time and attention. The simple little flowered dimities which are so quaint, and which, when made up, make such smart little afternoon gowns for the summer, will be much in demand.

A separate taffeta slip in white will do service for several of these gowns.

They all are made quite simply, shirring, tucks or bands of insertion or lace being their only ornamentation. These dimities come in a variety of designs, but the tiny rosebuds and roses seem the favorite pattern.

The first gown shown here is simply made, shirred in a quaint way and having a yoke of lace.

The second is a smart little frock in pale blue, with pink flowers. The lace is dyed to match the blue of the gown.

The third has a yoke of thin batiste in buff. Buff dimitie with a large pink rose is the pattern.

The fourth has medallions of lace set in. This is a girlish and pretty style.

The fifth has a deep lace yoke and girldie effect around the waist of lace. Many pin tucks play an important part in the gown.

The sixth has bands of lace insertion set in a new and pretty way.

### NEW GOODS FOR HOT WEATHER WEAR

AMONG the materials favored of fashion for the coming spring and summer voiles are to take a prominent place, and have been brought out in a series of tailor mixtures.

The salient color in these would seem to be brick red and white. In nearly every stuff knickerbocker effects prevail, by which is meant the irregular splashes of coarse interwoven threads, almost always white. In all classes of goods the chequerboard tint is likely to be greatly in fashion as the season advances, together with stone color, the new Delft blue, reseda green, as well as a darker shade, light tender peach, cornflower blue or pervenche, brown and navy.

There is a new tweed which commands itself from the delightful range of light tints in which it has appeared, such as turquoise blue, light and dark gray. This material is also to be had with a sort of cord stripe. An innovation is an Amazon cloth, that seems to lack its usual smooth surface, interwoven with white snowflakes, and there are mohairs with spots and stripes and invisible checks, but this is a durable excellent stuff.

The tennis stripe mohairs in white and blue, and the herringbone tweeds in pale tints made the more serviceable gowns, and there are plain canvases with white splashes and knickerbocker effects upon them, and others with mohair knots so arranged that they form a check. Some of the knicker grounded canvases show blue and green checkings in relief, and this mixture of color and the tatters of

these tones will be notable features without doubt as time goes on. Most of the stuffs described as yet have been suited to the intermediate season, but there is a large range which are more summer-like, and have been brought out in the most delicate tints, some of these showing star designs and silk lines, some more decidedly brocaded with black and white stripes.

#### Voiles in Vogue.

Cream voiles have been woven with black and white silk embroidery, and knicker voiles with self-colored silk dots and checks standing out in bold relief. In June, no doubt, there will be plenty of grass lawns seen, for this year they show silk stripes and white embroidery between, and pretty chine stripes with silk lines on either side.

Among the most delightful features

#### For And Against.

Several days before the last election one of the Democratic candidates was standing in the corridor of a Reading (Pa.) hotel, when a well known character, a rabid old Republican, came along and greeted him effusively. The latter was an impetuous fellow, and it seems, had been befriended on several occasions by the other, of whose friendship, in fact, he was inclined to boast. The greeting in this instance was the prelude to the request of a loan of \$2.

"How is it," said the candidate, "that when you want money you come to me, but when election day comes, you will vote for my opponent?"

"Well, you see," the other said, after a pause, "politically I'm opposed to you, financially I'm your friend."

of the summer stuffs are all the chine effects introduced into everything, and the pretty bunches of misty flowers and multi-colored flowers so suggestive of the happiest days of Watteau and Boucher. The new line of canvas displays fancy stripings like drawn thread work, with an interthreading of green silk here and there, and in the grass lawns these lace-like stripes assert themselves as well as borderings; the simpler the better. Voile is a material which is very pretty with lace insertion stripes.

There is a long range of cream grounded voiles with small curled mohair patterns all over; sometimes in silk, sometimes in black, and these are repeated in grays and browns and some other shades, while some of the coarser canvases exhibit white spots, which are repeated on navy, with checks in coarse mohair yarn, mohair being a good serviceable fabric which is never out of date. There are light colored, misty checked voiles, the pattern intensified by a black line.

There is quite a new make of coarse canvas, which looks for all the world as if it were made of white and colored coarse crocheted cotton interwoven. Lined with glace, this is being universally worn by the most fashionable dames of Vienna and Berlin for short stylish coats, which will, without doubt, find their way over here. There is also a fine binding thread of black introduced with a coarser weft and wool. Stone, red, blue green and champagne are the shades in which these are most seen. Another novelty just brought out is a tweed grounded stuff having small mohair patterns forming checks.

### Monocle is Adopted by Women

As The Very Latest of Fashion's Fads.

IF Paris is the home of styles, New York is the home of fads—wise and foolish alike. And the woman who would be fashionable must needs keep one eye on the boulevard, the other on Fifth avenue.

Even in England, where innovations are looked at askance, the "window-pane" is being taken up, one writer explaining that the trick has been learned from some American girls who have recently gone over. That the trick will probably "catch on" in England is admitted by this writer, who pathetically adduces the reason: "for things American seem to be in the ascendant."

"I met some of Uncle Sam's daughters the other day wearing monocles," she writes, "and when someone suggested surprise, they said, 'Why, don't you know, it's just the cutest and latest thing on the other side.'"

And so it is, if one may judge from what usually proves to be a sure indication—the big stocks being laid in by our big shops.

Five dollars, and even as small a sum as \$3, will pay for a monocle, while, on the other hand, there are richly jeweled, artistically designed

ones that fetch \$50, \$75 and even \$200. Only the most audacious of the fad-dists go so far as to wear the glass actually stuck in the eye.

Most women who use it have a dainty little handle of gold, set with jewels, by which to hold it up, while others even go to the extent of having gems set in the rim in which the glass is inserted. Some people have a round glass, while others have a square one. They are very much like the old "quizzing" glasses of the time of our grandmothers or great-grandmothers, and while some people undoubtedly do use them because they need them, there are a good many women who use an eyeglass simply because it is the fashion. There were attempts made some three or four years ago to make the eyeglass fashionable.

Instead of the man's plain silk cord women wear fine chains made of gold or silver or gun metal.

Some attribute this monocle fad to the influence of Prince Henry of Prussia on the occasion of his recent visit. But why the poor, innocent prince should be blamed, Lord only knows, for he is guiltless of wearing a monocle.

But whoever is to blame, the fad is here, and, to all appearances, is here to stay.

### AMERICAN'S DISEASED NERVES

A GERMAN physician who once came to this country to practice was soon so bewildered by the various nervous ailments he came in contact with that he bunched them all together, and called them "Americanitis."

It is commonly said that Americans overwork their brains and bodies, but it would be truer to say they misuse their bodies. If they run to catch a train; if they start out for healthful exercise; even if they lie down to sleep, they throw so much wasteful energy into these acts that the actually impede the muscles. This is presently true of American women, and of American women of leisure, at that. Generally a working woman learns some economy of energy, because she realizes that she cannot go on by

waste. In the matter of lying down to rest, how rarely you see a woman who lies supine like a little child, who allows the bed to take the responsibility of holding her up. Instead she holds on to the bed, she grips the pillow, draws up her knees, tightly clenches her teeth. In her busy brain she goes over and over again the little round of her day, or she tastes in anticipation the troubles of tomorrow. Even after she drops off to sleep she continues rigid and contracted, for long years of habit are too much for old Mother Nature. What is the result of this hurry and waste that arrive at nothing but wrinkles, weariness and loss of flexibility?

We have only to look at Nature to see how perfectly she rests. With her when night comes it is night. The grass sleeps until it is its time to awaken. The buds roll themselves up, to come out in beauty when the right season calls. In Nature's works we do not see great effort, but great power.